

Sam Jury

5th – 30th October 2006

Private View: 4th October 2006



The Wyer Gallery is delighted to announce a solo exhibition of new work by Sam Jury, a Royal Academy graduate recently noted for her work with the Gao Brothers in Beijing. The show opens with a private view on the 4th October 2006.

Jury disrupts conventional notions of the relationship between subject, ground and context, confusing their boundaries and undermining a viewer's tendency to rationalise imagery in an attempt to construct a narrative context. Through a process of objectification of body and image, Jury distances her audience from the subjects of her work. She uses a cinematic language to emphasise this dislocation between viewer and image and, in doing so, echoes the relationship between contemporary media and its audience. Her work comments on a society in which the viewer is always a spectator, constantly exposed to imagery and yet permanently distanced and de-sensitised from it.

Jury's practice is based in digital media, painting and print or a combination of these. She uses digital photography as a basis for pieces and works into them with different glazes, minimising detail and softening edges to create a feeling of distance or impaired vision.

In her portrayals of indistinct figures captured through the zoom lens, she presents us with a series of alienated and crumpled bodies, set against deserted landscapes, focusing always on the body as a dormant entity rather than on any sense of the self. In her close-up, reaction shots too, Jury plays upon the psychological inferences of being a spectator and mass consumer of information, deflating the purpose of portraiture by creating an exaggerated 'type' of woman, constructed digitally by the obsessive superimposition of images from lifestyle magazines.

Prior to her solo show at Wyer Gallery, Jury will participate in *Field of Vision*, a live event fusing photography, performance and the moving image organized by The GAO Brothers & Digital Art Projects to be held at the Gao Brothers' gallery NewArt Projects in the controversial Dashanzi Art District of Beijing. In September, she will exhibit alongside Tracy Emin in a group show curated by Cynthia Griffin called *A Woman on Paper* at the Stephen Haller Gallery in New York. Sam Jury was Fellow in Printmaking at the Royal Academy Schools 2000 - 2002. Prior to this she studied at Cornell University, New York, and graduated in 1998 with a Masters Degree in Painting. She is currently Senior Lecturer in Fine Art at the University of Hertfordshire and her last solo show was *The Distance Between Us* at Catto Contemporary in 2003.

Ends

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Notes to Editors

1 Images and further information are available at www.thewyergallery.co.uk or on request.

2 Interviews with the artist or gallery director are available on request.

3 The Wyer Gallery is located at 191 St John's Hill, Battersea, London, SW11 1TH.

4 Opening hours are Tuesday to Friday, 10am to 6pm; Thursdays until 8pm and Saturday 10am to 5pm, or other times by appointment.



Supported by

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